



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
Sixth Floor
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

Emma Best
DEPT MR 24402
411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
24402-70116083@requests.muckrock.com

Re: Appeal No. DOJ-AP-2019-004301
Request No. 1346536-000
CDT:PJA

VIA: Email

Dear Emma Best:

You appealed from the action of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on your Freedom of Information Act request for access to records concerning the Temple of Set. I note that you appeal concerns the withholdings made by the FBI, as well as the adequacy of the FBI's search.

After carefully considering your appeal, I am affirming the FBI's action on your request. The FOIA provides for disclosure of many agency records. At the same time, Congress included in the FOIA nine exemptions from disclosure that provide protection for important interests such as personal privacy, privileged communications, and certain law enforcement activities. The FBI properly withheld certain information because it is protected from disclosure under the FOIA pursuant to:

5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), which concerns material the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of third parties;

5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C), which concerns records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes the release of which could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of the personal privacy of third parties; and

5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(E), which concerns records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes the release of which would disclose techniques and procedures or guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions.

Please be advised that for each of these exemptions, it is reasonably foreseeable that disclosure of the information withheld would harm the interests protected by these exemptions.

Furthermore, please be advised that the FBI referred records to the United States Army Crime Records Center for processing and direct response to you. This referral was proper and in accordance with Department of Justice regulations. See 28 C.F.R. § 16.4(d)(2) (2018). If you

have any questions concerning the status of this referral, please contact the U.S. Army Crime Records Center directly. You may appeal any future adverse determination made by the U.S. Army Crime Records Center in accordance with the instructions provided by the U.S. Army Crime Records Center in its response to you.

Finally, as to your appeal concerning the adequacy of the FBI's search for responsive records subject to the FOIA, I have determined that the FBI's response was correct and that it conducted an adequate, reasonable search for such records. Please be advised that the FBI searched main and cross-reference files for records responsive to your request, and located and processed two cross-references.

Please be advised that this Office's decision was made only after a full review of this matter. Your appeal was assigned to an attorney with this Office who thoroughly reviewed and analyzed your appeal, your underlying request, and the action of the FBI in response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with my action on your appeal, the FOIA permits you to file a lawsuit in federal district court in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

For your information, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. If you have any questions regarding the action this Office has taken on your appeal, you may contact this Office's FOIA Public Liaison for your appeal. Specifically, you may speak with the undersigned agency official by calling (202) 514-3642.

Sincerely,

11/8/2019

X



Christina D. Troiani, Associate Chief, for
Matthew Hurd, Acting Chief, Administrative Appe...
Signed by: CHRISTINA TROIANI